Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the Title at page 1, page 1, line 1 and replace with the following new Title:

METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING COMPOUNDS THAT INHIBIT OR REDUCE A CHRONIC INFLAMMATORY AIRWAY DISEASE IN WHICH A MACROPHAGE IS IN A HYPERACTIVATED STATUS DUE TO DOWN-REGULATED p21-ACTIVATED KINASE 2 (PAK2) KINASE

Please replace paragraph 4 beginning at page 26 and spanning the top of page 27 with the following amended paragraph:

Activity of secreted matrix metalloproteases

Protease activity is determined with a fluorescent substrate. Supernatants isolated from stimulated and unstimulated cells (described above) are incubated in a total volume of 50 µl with 1 µM of the substrate (Dabcyl-Gaba-Pro-Gln-Gly-Leu-Glu (EDANS)-Ala-Lys-NH2 (SEQ ID NO:13) (Novabiochem)) for 5 minutes at room temperature. Positive controls are performed with 125 ng purified MMP-12 per reaction. Protease activity is determined by fluorometry with an excitation at 320 nm and an emission at 405 nm.

Please enter the Substitute Sequence Listing into the specification.